GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:408
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2005
CATEGORISATION OF POOR
Agarwal Shri Dhirendra;Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has categorised poor into two categories i.e. the poor and the most poor;

(b) if so, the basis and the definition thereof;

(c) the State-wise number of people in the above two categories; and

(d) the differences in the nature of programmes selected for implementation, extension of facilities or otherwise as applicable as a result of the aforesaid classification?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V.RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 408 REGARDING CATEGORISATION OF POOR BY SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA AND DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL, DUE FOR ANSWER ON 24-8-2005.

(a) to (c): The Planning Commission which is the nodal body for official poverty estimates, does not categorise the poor as `the poor` and the `most poor`. The estimate of incidence of poverty distinguishes only between the poor (BPL) and the non- poor (APL) for the total population of the country. Therefore, there is no basis for differentiation of `the poor` and the `most poor`. The latest estimate of state-wise poverty by the Planning Commission, in the year 1999-2000, is given in Annexure-I.

(d): The various anti-poverty programmes in the country are applicable uniformly to all BPL persons/ households, except the Antyodaya Anna Yojana(AAY), which was launched in December 2000 and involved the identification of 1 crore poorest of the poor families who would be provided 25 kg foodgrains at a highly subsidized price of Rs 2 /kg for wheat and Rs.3 /kg for rice. The scale of issue has since been increased from 25 kg/family/month to 35 kg/ family/month with effect from 1st April 2002. The scheme has been expanded to cover 2.5 crore families.

Annexure-I

Population Living Below Poverty Line in 1999-2000

(in lakhs)

S.No.	States/U.T.`s	Rural	Urban	Combined
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.13	60.88	119.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	0.18	3.98
3.	Assam	92.17	2.38	94.55
4.	Bihar	376.51	49.13	425.64
5.	Goa	0.11	0.59	0.70
6.	Gujarat	39.80	28.09	67.89
7	Haryana	11.94	5.39	17.34

8. Himachal Pradesh	4.84	0.29	5.12
9. Jammu & Kashmir	2.97	0.49	3.46
10. Karnataka	59.91	44.49	104.40
11. Kerala	20.97	20.07	41.04
12. Madhya Pradesh	217.32	81.22	298.54
13. Maharashtra	125.12	102.87	227.99
14. Manipur	6.53	0.66	7.19
15. Meghalaya	7.89	0.34	8.23
16. Mizoram	1.40	0.45	1.85
17. Nagaland	5.21	0.28	5.49
18. Orissa	143.69	25.40	169.09
19. Punjab	10.20	4.29	14.49
20. Rajasthan	55.06	26.78	81.83
21. Sikkim	2.00	0.04	2.05
22. Tamil Nadu	80.51	49.97	130.48
23. Tripura	12.53	0.49	13.02
24. Uttar Pradesh	412.01	117.88	529.89
25. West Bengal	180.11	33.38	213.49
26. A & N Island	0.58	0.24	0.82
27. Chandigarh	0.06	0.45	0.51
28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.30	0.03	0.33
29. Daman & Diu	0.01	0.05	0.06
30. Delhi	0.07	11.42	11.49
31. Lakshadweep	0.03	0.08	0.11
32. Pondicherry	0.64	1.77	2.41
All India	1932.43	670.07	2602.50

Note:

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh,Meghalaya, Mizoram,Manipur,Nagaland and Tripura.

2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.

3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.

4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Island.

5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.

6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.

8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.